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LAW DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

AMT - Get me files on Barclay Patents and Patents Filtration

TO: Foreign Patent Subcommittee DATE: 25 November 1981

FROM: Art Palmer

SUBJECT: FOREIGN FILING OF FTR CASES P28247, P28244, P28243 (PM 1033, 1034, 1035)

Early this year FTR filed these applications in Germany to establish a priority date. They relate to various techniques for making grooved filters or the like. Copies of the drawings and claims of each case are enclosed for your information.

We deferred consideration of possible Convention filing of corresponding U.S. applications in view of uncertainties about commercial prospects of Project GROW in this country. I'm still inclined not to file U.S. versions, but that is a matter which can be considered at our next Patent Committee meeting after discussion with Fish & Neave. I wrote to Ed Bailey on September 16 asking for review and comments about this.

The point now needing prompt attention is FTR's request for clearance to file in additional European countries. They have proposed filing in Switzerland, France, Netherlands, Great Britain, Belgium, Sweden, and Finland. The latter two were included, I'm told, because BAT filed their Barclay cases there. From a U.S. viewpoint I'm not sure what, if anything, that has to do with deciding where to file any of FTR's own applications. On the other hand, as discussed at our FPS meeting on November 17, we would generally wish to defer to FTR's recommendations is such matters unless there was a good reason not to do so. As far as I'm concerned, there seems to be no reason for objecting to their proposal except that Sweden and Finland seem unnecessary due to expense and other practical difficulties.

Assuming that Fish & Neave find no reason in terms of the U.S. situation to hold back (or to withdraw the original German application), is there any objection to FTR filing as they have suggested?

AP

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Enclosures

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